

2771-515-CIP

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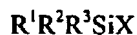
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Section II (Remarks)

Subsequent to receipt of the April 2, 2007 Notice of Allowance in this application, applicants have become aware of additional references as to which continued prosecution is desired, in connection with the amended claims presented herein.

In Section I hereof, claims 1, 8, 10, 11, 16, 26, 29 and 35-37 have been amended.

Claim 1 has been amended to further recite the end-capping reagent as being selected from the group consisting of compounds of the formula



wherein:

each of R^1 , R^2 and R^3 is independently selected from among H, C_1 - C_8 alkyl and C_5 - C_{12} aryl; and X is selected from among OH, and nitrogen-containing silyl, and when any of R^1 , R^2 or R^3 is C_5 - C_{12} aryl, then X can also be silyloxy.

Such recital of amended claim 1 is fully consistent with and supported by the disclosure in the originally filed application, e.g., in paragraph [0061] at page 12 of the specification thereof.

Claim 8 has been amended to restrict such claim to recital of BHT. Claim 10 has been amended to limit X to nitrogen-containing silyl.

Claims 8 and 10 as amended therefore have been delimited by removal of recitations of the stabilizing agent species in such claims.

Claim 11 has been amended to remove two of the previously recited species from the Markush group therein.

Claim 16 has been amended in correspondence to amended claim 1.

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Claim 26 likewise has been amended in correspondence to amended claim 1.

Claim 29 has been amended to remove HMDS from the Markush group therein. HMDS has also been removed from the Markush group in claims 35, 36 and 37, and claim 37 additionally has been amended to recite the end-capping reagent as being selected from the group consisting of silyl-N-methylacetamides. Such amendments are consistent with and supported by the disclosure at page 12, paragraph [0061] of the specification.

Accordingly, no new matter (35 USC 132) has been added by the amendment of claims herein.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement is concurrently being filed in this application, under separate cover, to make of record references of which applicants have recently become aware.

It is requested that such references be considered in the further proceedings involving this application.

Concurrent Filing of RCE

A Request for Continued Examination is concurrently being filed with this amendment, with the appertaining RCE fee of \$790.00. Payment of such amount is enclosed in the accompanying Credit Card Payment Form.

Authorization also is hereby given to charge the amount of any deficiency in fees properly payable for this amendment and accompanying Request for Continued Examination, to Deposit Account No. 08-3284 of Intellectual Property/Technology Law.

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Conclusion

It is requested that examination be continued in this application, based on the claims as amended herein, pursuant to the Request for Continued Examination concurrently filed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures:

Request for Continued Examination Transmittal (Form PTO/SB/30) [1 page]
Credit Card Form PTO-2038 [1 page]

The USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment of fees properly payable for this document to Deposit Account No. 08-3284